

# THE COMET.

Thirty Fourth Year.

JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1917.

Whole Number 1724

## FARMERS FIGHT FOR MORE CROPS

To Meet War Needs Men and Women Organize to Produce and Conserve

### TENNESSEE VOLUNTEER FORCE

Country and City Unite to Meet the Call of the Hour So That Tennessee May Not Be Found Wanting—Counties Thoroughly Organized.

With patriotic rapidity, the farmers of the counties of Tennessee responded to the call for increased crop production.

After the spring work was well under way the news became generally known that because of the relation the United States bore to the warring nations the farmers of this country would have to feed the other countries. It was seen at a glance that city people could help by conserving supplies at their tables and in their warehouses. Within a few days the whole country came to the realization that an increased food supply meant action on the part of every resident of the United States and that anything less than the fullest action meant disloyalty to this country.

By that time the United States has expressed her willingness to enter the war in the names of Liberty and of Humanity.

Instantly the farmers came forward to do their duty. Tennessee, as one of the states, organized every nook and corner of the state for the purpose of increased production of staple crops. Great emphasis was placed upon the value of soy beans as a crop for many uses.

As soon as an organization was made in a county, the communities began to get figures as to their needs and particularly did each community try to use the available seed supply to its fullest capacity of planting. Beans and peas that might have gone in the ground broadcast were seeded in rows and cultivated in order that the few seed available might go as far as possible. Sorghum, as a source of sweetening, was treated in the same way.

#### County Reports Show Needs.

At the time this article is being written the county reports as to the needs and supplies are coming in to the State Committee on Public Safety in Food Preparedness. Increased acreages of 15 to 20 per cent of corn and soy beans are being reported. Other staple crops are being reported in the same way. Increased acreages of more perishable crops are also noted, and, while this is written, communities are organizing to take care of their increased crops to the advantage of producer and consumer.

Once in a while, perhaps, there will be some man who has a garden in which he has planted an excess of a perishable crop. When he has a little of that crop to market, the market will probably be glutted. He, at once, raises a calamity howl. At the same time that he does this he overlooks the fact that on his own land he has not planted enough of the staples to take care of his family and his live stock. He is looking at the little end of the work.

But for the most part, farmers are proving themselves big men and big women. They see the need and are doing their best to meet it. Supporting them are the business men of the cities who realize that upon a successful agriculture depends a successful nation.

And at this time when war is the paramount issue, it may be seen by any one who thinks about current events that upon an abundant food supply rests the victory we are to achieve.

### HOW TO USE POTATOES

Cook potatoes, both sweet and white, with the skins on, whenever possible, as this retains some nutriment, saves material, labor and time.

#### Boiled Potatoes.

Add 1 teaspoonful of salt to one quart of boiling water. Put in the potatoes and let cook until tender. Drain thoroughly. Peel, if cooked with skins on. Sprinkle lightly with salt and shake the pan back and forth on the hot stove. If they can not be served at once, move to the back of the stove and cover with a cloth. Do not put on the lid, as the lid will make them soggy. The cloth will allow the steam to escape and leaves them dry and mealy.

#### Mashed Potatoes.

Boil the potatoes, as above. Pass thru a vegetable strainer, or mash with a potato masher. For 4 or 5 medium-size potatoes, add 2 level table-spoons butter,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of hot milk and a little salt. Beat with a perforated wood spoon until very light and fluffy. Turn in a hot dish and serve at once. If these are not served at once, set in a pan of hot water to keep warm, without the lid, as the lid keeps the steam in and makes them soggy.

#### Baked Potatoes.

Wash potatoes thoroughly, either white or sweet potatoes. Bake in a hot oven. It will take moderate-sized potatoes about 45 minutes. If a soft skin is desired, the skins may be greased over before they are placed in the oven. The potatoes should be eaten as soon as they are thoroughly tender. Break open, and if there must be a delay of 5 minutes or more before they are served, make two gashes in the top of each potato at right angles to each other. Gently squeeze and let a little of the steam escape.

#### Hash Brown Potatoes.

Cook potatoes with the skins on in boiling water. When done chop with a chopper, or a clean tin can. When chopped in small, even pieces, spread over with a little butter or other fat and place in the oven to reheat and brown—Genette Conway, specialist in home economics, Division of Extension, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### PREPARE FOR GOOD HORSES NOW—THEY WILL BE NEEDED

During the time when the road and saddle horse of Tennessee was receiving the finishing touches in his development, there was a great change being made in the agricultural field of the Middle West. The land owners there were beginning to realize the value of more horse power on the farm, and secured good types of draft stallions for use on their foundation of range mares.

After getting the mares from this sort of mating they saw that they had an excellent incubator for high-priced mules, if they used the proper kind of jacks. It was then that they scoured Tennessee and Kentucky for jacks of such type and carried many away during the succeeding years.

From this foundation they are now producing mules that we are buying as weanlings and developing on our Tennessee farms. It is common knowledge that the best mule of this history is the highest-priced mule on the markets today.

Why not select draft stallions of proper conformation and action to mate with our common native mares, as did the Middle Westerners years ago, and produce our own good animals in numbers equal to the demand?

It is possible that never again will there be a market equal to that of the last two years for the plug horse. War demands have been heavy, it is true, but may never recur.

Now is the time to prepare against overstocking the country with plug horse stock by taking steps to have something to meet the regular demand for our agricultural market.—C. D. Lowe, Division of Extension, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

## MR. WISEGUY—BY C. D. GRAVES

© 1916 NATIONAL CARTOON SERVICE CORPORATION, N.Y.



## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ELECTION

### "What's The Matter With Tennessee?"

TENNESSEE'S RANK AMONG SOUTHERN STATES					
	Population	Wealth	Agricultural Products	Manufactures	Miles Railroad
In 1870	Second	Second	Second	Third	Third
In 1910	Fifth	Eighth	Fourth	Seventh	Ninth

MARK HIS Every single sister Southern State that has outstripped Tennessee has had ONE OR MORE NEW CONSTITUTIONS SINCE 1870.

### Isn't It About Time To Give Tennessee a Chance?

DON'T PUT OFF TO ANOTHER YEAR WHAT OUGHT TO BE DONE THIS.

### Proper Time For Holding Convention

Some who are opposing the holding of a constitutional convention are advancing the argument that the time is not propitious and that it would be better to wait until the European war is over.

But why? Is the fabric of Tennessee or the other States of the Union or that of the Federal government to be changed by the struggle across the waters? Is it necessary to await a revolution in this country which no man anticipates, and which, indeed, all men know is not coming, in order to transact pressing public business?

It is the map of Europe which is to be changed by that epoch-making struggle; it is European thrones which are falling and tottering, and not the institutions of the great Republic of the western hemisphere.

Every American commonwealth may rightfully and wisely proceed to adjust its laws and plans and aspirations along the lines of its own needs and environment and destiny, in the most absolute and serene assurance that the European war will be powerless, on the one hand, to disturb the fabric of its government; nor will it, on the other, relieve it of the necessity of a prudent attention to matters of immediate concern.

The patriotism of Tennessee will not be exhausted on the battlefields of France. It will be illustrated there, splendidly illustrated; it will be proven in a prowess which will be worthy of the most heroic memories of a past which hoary Europe may deem young but which all Europe admires and respects. Teuton no less than Celt. But the fathers and elder brothers of the gallant array of sons of Northland and of South marching beneath a common flag to fields of a common courage and a common glory, will not prove recreant at home to the spirit of patriotism which animates the absent soldiery of the nation.

They will perform, in reverent and unbroken tenderness of memory, though it be, but in action nevertheless, the duties which the days bring forth, be they those of the problem of individual life or those which the common weal and affairs of state present.

### KEEPING FARM ACCOUNTS IS A LOYAL ACT TODAY

War Experience Shows Benefit to Nation of an Accurate Record of Business Facts.

People interested in accounting the world over have reason to be proud of the part accounting has played on the great world crisis—a part destined to be even greater in the grim days that lie ahead, inasmuch as our country has now definitely entered the struggle in defense of democratic institutions.

How the cost of shells to the British Government was reduced 25 per cent to 30 per cent is a story of deep interest to the American nation. When Mr. Samuel H. Lever assumed his duties as Minister of Munitions, one of the first things he did was to inquire about the price paid for shells. He says, "It rather developed that the prices being paid were what had been paid before, and that no information was in the Department making the contracts as to the actual cost—as to what value you were getting for what you were paying."

He set to work, with the aid of accountants, to determine the cost of the various shells. The big armament firms were then confronted with these costs, with the result that the price of shells was immediately cut down 25 per cent to 30 per cent.

Next, the Government shell factories were the subject of investigation by Mr. Lever. Quoting again from his statements: "In order that we might see just exactly what these factories were doing we instituted a cost system in each of these factories by which we got the cost of each shell."

As a reward for his splendid work of efficiency, Mr. Lever had been knighted by the English Government. It is the duty of every American farmer to make his business just as efficient a business as possible. There is no way in which he can assist his country more. Accounting specialists at the Division of Extension, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will be glad to render farmers any assistance possible, free of charge. Write to them if you want to install accurate, simple records.

Only a Beginning.  
"She can't be as progressive as you say if she's taken up embroidering handkerchiefs."  
"Why not?"  
"Because that very seldom gets beyond the initial stage."—Baltimore American.

Chinese Thieves.  
In China thieves who are caught stealing are compelled to make a tour of the neighboring villages with a board bearing an account of their offense clamped around their necks.

THE COMET FOR JOB WORK  
SUBSCRIBE FOR THE COMET

### CROP ROTATION AS IT IS ADVISED FOR TENNESSEE

Specialist in Soils and Crops Makes Recommendations for Profitable Farming.

Crop rotations are needed on every farm, but it is very difficult for any one to outline a rotation that will be of universal application. One may suggest, perhaps, certain things upon which farmers can build suitable rotations, but that is about as far as one can go.

Japan clover should, no doubt, receive wider attention than it has in the past. Farmers should be urged to sow it on poor land alone, or in combination with redtop and other grasses. If one were to suggest a method of preparing poor land and to run two years in corn, the suggestions would probably be these:

First—From Japan clover prepare land in July, phosphating with crimson clover, which will be turned under for corn.

Second—Plant soy beans in the same row with corn, thus adding a legume. The soy beans may be pastured with hogs, if fences permit, or turned under after the corn is gathered.

There is hardly time for a cover crop between two crops of corn. Besides, in order to distribute farm labor, farmers should have some places for fall and winter plowing.

Corn grown in winter-plowed land can be planted earlier and harvested early in the fall. It would be an advantage to cut and shock the second crop of corn because it is to be followed by small grain. After the small grain, summer fallow and sow to red clover and grasses, using lime and phosphate, if possible. After red clover is gone, Japan clover will volunteer.

The first year grass and clover should be used for production of hay for home use. The crop of hay, which will be mostly grass, may be cut the second year for marketing and the land used for pasture after the hay is removed.

When this rotation is followed out in systematic order, it is as follows:

First Year—Japan clover, pasture and summer fallow. Crimson clover, under for

Second Year—Corn and beans; winter plowing.

Third Year—Corn, cut and shocked; winter grain.

Fourth Year—Winter grain; summer fallow for red clover and grass.

Fifth Year—Clover and grass. (Hay, home use).

Sixth Year—Grass. (Hay, market and pasture).

The important part of it all is that the sod land should be put into crimson clover, rather than that corn should follow the sod land directly.—J. C. McAmis, Specialist in Agronomy, Division of Extension, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.)

### THREE MAIN THINGS ABOUT TUBERCULOSIS

Let the patient fix firmly in his mind the three fundamental principles upon which the cure for consumption is based: air, food, and rest. The specific instructions regarding exercise must be obeyed. In cases where there is as much as a degree of fever, the least exertion will be harmful. In cases where fever is absent, over exertion and excitement must be as carefully avoided as catching cold.

As a rule consumptives have a distaste for food. One possessing a good appetite is considered fortunate, as eating almost to the extent of stuffing is quite necessary. Foods that give flesh and strength are most desirable, such as milk, eggs, meats, nuts, butter, vegetables cooked with meat or fats. The regular three meals, or even four meals per day, are advocated. Consumption is one disease in which solid foods are insisted upon.—Lena A. Warner, health specialist, Division of Extension, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### Farmers, INTERESTED In Farming, Study Their Business



These farmers came to a meeting at their schoolhouse community center one cold, winter day, just before Christmas. They came to study and to learn more about the farm problems before them. This meeting was but one of forty-two meetings of a special better-farming campaign carried on by the Division of Extension of the University of Tennessee along the lines of the N., C. and St. L. Ry. in West, Middle and East Tennessee. The railroad co-operated by furnishing the cars that carried the speakers from place to place.

### IS YOUR DOG AN ALLY OF THE KAISER



The dog pictured is blamed for killing twenty-five Missouri sheep last year, according to the Kansas City Star. And besides that loss, think of the food he ate in order to have strength to do that evil work. Food in the world this year will be scarce.

Remember, each dog consumes about the same amount of food as the average person. Each dog living means that one human being will have to go without food. Be sure that your dog is worth to you what he costs the country.